BIOCHEM 3C03 Course Outline 2010/2011

Instructors

Dr. David W. Andrews, Dr. Brian Leber

Teaching Assistants

Hetal Brahmbhatt & Ana Tomljenovic

Course Description

1. Biochemical basis of complex cellular processes such as compartmentalization, vesicular traffic, protein turnover, membrane biogenesis, movement and programmed cell death. Emphasis is placed on the principles of evaluation of current research literature and presentation of data analysis.

2. Three lectures; second term

3. Prerequisite: BIOCHEM 3D03; and registration in Honours Biochemistry (Molecular Biology Specialization), Honours Arts & Science and Biochemistry or Honours Physics (Biophysics Specialization)

Mark Distribution

20% Class Participation
Includes:

Answering questions and participation in class discussion!

Mini-presentation of Wiki topic after selection: Includes in class presentation and initial Wiki set-up. The initial Wiki set-up includes a front-page, preliminary navigation tools, an overview of the topic, an overview of how the ~4 papers fit together and then for each person a page on which they briefly describe (one paragraph) the main point of their paper and how it contributes to the topic.
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Presentation of your finished Wiki site to the rest of the class and participation in the question periods for other people’s sites. Attendance for some classes is mandatory (list provided).

20% Term Tests (1 or 2)

40% Wiki Project

20% Final Test

Format of test and exam questions: “Explain the significance of the following data.”
The data will be extracted from papers the same as or similar to those analyzed in class or Wiki projects.

Academic Integrity

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- Improper collaboration in group work.
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.
Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work

For absences from classes lasting up to 5 days:
Using the McMaster student absence form (MSAF) on-line, self-reporting tool, undergraduate students may report absences lasting up to 5 days and may also request relief for missed academic work. The submission of medical or other types of supporting documentation is normally not required. Students may use this tool to submit a maximum of two requests for relief of missed academic work per term. Students must immediately follow up with their course instructors regarding the nature of the relief. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief. It is the prerogative of the instructor of the course to determine the appropriate relief for missed term work in his/her course.

The MSAF on-line, self-reporting tool cannot be used to apply for any final examination or its equivalent. See Petitions for Special Consideration in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Important information

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Failure to hand in assignments on time or to attend mandatory classes will be penalized.

Discretionary notes from the Associate Dean’s office will not be accommodated.